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**COCAINE TRAFFICKER SENTENCED TO OVER 21 YEARS**

Greenbelt, Maryland - United States Attorney for the District of Maryland Rod J. Rosenstein announces that today U.S. District Court Judge Peter J. Messitte sentenced Craig N. Webster, age 46, of Olney, Maryland to 262 months in prison followed by 5 years of supervised release for possessing with intent to distribute cocaine base.

According to the statement of facts presented to the court as part of his plea agreement, between February 20, 2003 and March 17, 2003, Montgomery County Police Department detectives conducted three controlled purchases of cocaine base from Webster totaling 14.57 grams. During a search on March 27, 2003 of Webster, his home and a trailer parked on the property of his residence, detectives and police officers recovered over 93.94 grams of cocaine base (commonly known as crack cocaine), a bottle of inositol (commonly used as a cutting agent for cocaine), a digital scale, and 16.57 grams of cocaine hydrochloride (commonly known as cocaine powder). As part of the plea agreement, Webster agreed to forfeit \$22,024 in cash that was seized from Webster at the time of his arrest.

United States Attorney Rosenstein praised the work of the Montgomery County Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Administration. Mr. Rosenstein commended Assistant United States Attorney Chan Park who prosecuted the case.